

Joseph

What do we know about Joseph? **NOT MUCH**

✓ carpenter (*Mt. 13:55*)

✓ “righteous” (*Mt. 1:19*)

However hurt/angry Joseph was toward Mary,
he wanted to let her down gently (*Mt. 18:19*)

TRUE love combines sacredness and sympathy... appreciates divine value and human dignity.

It is committed to protection, even while it is committed to punishment.

Love does not DELIGHT in evil,
but rejoices with the truth. It always
protects, always trusts, always hopes,
always perseveres. *(1 Cor. 13:6-7)*

Joseph > **father** > Jesus

- Jerusalem for purification (*Lk. 2:22*)
- Egypt to escape Herod (*Mt. 2:13-15*)
- Jerusalem (every year) > Passover (*Lk. 2:41*)
- provided a stable home in Nazareth
(*Mt. 2:19-23, Lk. 2:39-40*)
- assumed to be biological father of Jesus
(*Mt. 13:55, Lk. 3-23, Jn. 1:45*)

Beyond its own self, dreams,
accomplishment, or biological family,
TRUE love recognizes **need** and **hope**
outside of itself. It is open minded!

Authentic love is not troubled
by messy conditions!

The MIRACLE happened to Mary.
Joseph drew the straw of “supporting”
this woman that he loved.

TRUE love is not jealous or dominating.

Joseph did not ever **compete** with Mary for attention or acclaim.

*Love **rejoices** [in the blessing of the beloved] rather than competes.

Love is patient and kind. It does not
ENVY; it does not boast; it is not proud.
It is not rude, or SELF SEEKING, or easily
angered. It keeps no record of wrongs.

(1 Cor. 13:4-5)

Love must be sincere... devoted to the other...
honor one another above yourselves.
REJOICE with those who REJOICE; weep
with those who weep.

(Rom. 12:9-10, 15)